

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

What Sinclair is attempting to do is very similar to the Saddam Hussein Iraq regime we recently destroyed. It is hypocritical for a Republican agenda to discuss the need to free the Iraqi people from such a regime, yet still find it acceptable to promote a bias agenda in the Swing States, by forcing the local Sinclair stations to run a vary slanted documentary about Senator John Kerry. If they are so unbiased like they are claiming, they should also allow Michael Moore free airtime to run Fahrenheit 911 on their stations as well.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Kelly
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